**Northwest Middle School**

**Math Intervention Syllabus 2017-2018**

**Mr. McConnell Room 111 (6th) / 227 (7th) / 221 (8th)**

**COURSE OUTCOME:**

Math Intervention is a course designed to integrate research-based strategies proven effective in increasing achievement for struggling learners. Students in intervention may be between one to three years behind their grade level. *This course is not a tutoring or homework session*. The focus is identifying the skills students lack and teaching these to the students. Students will use hands-on exploration, visual clarification, and written expression with symbols. Students will often work in pairs, small groups, and practice math skills using computer programs. Teacher may instruct lessons to the whole class or to small groups or individual students. Students will be assessed every two weeks and their progress will be discussed in a confidential RTII data team meeting with the grade level administrator, teacher, and school counselors approximately every 4.5 weeks. Parents will be notified of student progress through email and documents sent home every 4.5 weeks.

**INSTRUCTOR:**

Experience:

* Math Teacher, 7th and 8th grade, South Doyle Middle School, 4 years
* Math Teacher, Algebra 1 and Algebra 2, South Doyle High School 2 years

Education:

* Master’s Degree, Mathematics Education, University of Tennessee, 2010
* Bachelor’s Degree, Mathematics, University of Tennessee, 2009

Personal:

* Married 8 years to wife, Hannah
* Children: Timothy, 6 years old
* Pets: Amos (Dog); Butterscotch, Chocolate Chip, Chestnut, Freckles (Finches)
* Likes: Playing music (guitar), Tinkering with music (piano, violin), gardening, playing sports (basketball, Frisbee golf, soccer, anything…)

**INSTRUCTION:**

Instruction will include visual and hands-on activities in small groups with rotation. The general pacing is dependent upon achievement gains demonstrated through a variety of assessments throughout the course.

* **Content:** Various skills will be learned this year such as…
  + Understanding and naming place value positions
  + Multiplying, dividing, adding, and subtracting whole numbers
  + Multiplying, dividing, adding, and subtracting decimals
  + Simplifying, multiplying, dividing, adding, and subtracting fractions
  + Converting decimals, fractions, and percents
  + Solving one-step and two-step equations
  + Squaring numbers and understanding exponents
  + Multiplying, dividing, adding, and subtracting integers
  + Graphing points and lines on the coordinate plane
* **Materials:** Students will need to bring pencils to class. Students will keep their interactive math notebook and/or folder in the classroom.
* **Resources:** 
  + **Textbook:** Students will not be assigned an individual textbook for math intervention. I will use the Moving with Math Curriculum in addition to resources from Math Connects textbook resources, Support Coach Foundational Math book, and SRA Math textbook.
  + **Online:**
    - Math Videos: Brainpop.com, MathTV.com, Mathsnacks.com, PBSLearningMedia.org, Mathflix.luc.edu, Muzology.com
    - Math Practice & Games: FrontRowEd.com, Hoodamath.com, Funbrain.com, Math-play.com, Mathplayground.com, Kutasoftware.com, ixl.com, Mangahigh.com, njctl.org, Prodigy.com

**ASSESSMENT:**

* **Expectations:** Students are expected to complete all assignments given to the best of their abilities. Students are also expected to show all work when applicable and ask questions.
* **Progress Monitoring:** Students will take a short assessment (8-10 minutes long) every 2 weeks. While these are not test or quiz grades, they are used to determine student growth in specific areas of need.
* **Grading Policy:** Per Knox County policy for intervention classes, grades are not issued.However, students will receive notice about every 4.5 weeks on their child’s progress toward mastery of instructional skills.

**HOMEWORK:**

There will be no homework assigned for students in the intervention class. However, if you would like to work on skills at home with your child, I will be more than happy to get some materials and/or websites that your child can do. Your student can also go to FrontRowed.com or ixl.com and practice on the computer.

**GENERAL EXPECTATIONS:**

* **Positive Attitude:** We are about growing and learning in my classroom. Students will set goals for themselves and we will celebrate our achievements! Our classroom will be a positive, supporting environment where we help each other learn. Bullying and negative comments will not be tolerated.
* **Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to come to class everyday unless they have an adequate reason for missing. If they do miss class, it is important to bring in a note within 5 school days so that the absent will be marked as excused.
* **Classroom Policy:** The classroom policies and procedures will be posted in the classroom all year long as well as the school’s expectations for student behavior.

**STUDENT SUPPLIES & MATERIALS:**

* There are no supplies you need to buy for this class. They will be given a spiral notebook, folder, and pencil to keep in the classroom. If they take the pencil out of the classroom, then they will need to bring their own pencil to class the next time.
* Calculators will rarely be used in the intervention class because students are learning and practicing many basic skills. We will have calculators in the classroom for students when they are allowed to use them.

**TEACHER COMMUNICATION:**

Communication between the teacher and the parent is one best ways to ensure student success. I can be reached through email (fastest) or by calling the school during school hours and leaving a message. I will return the call during planning period ASAP.

 **Email Address: justin.mcconnell@knoxschools.org**

**Work Phone:** 865-594-1345 main school office phone